

*A SELECTIVE, ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY ON  
THE NORTH KOREAN MILITARY*

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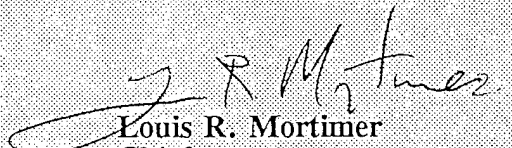
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## PREFACE

This bibliography provides selective annotations of open-source material and covers the following topics:

- modernization of the North Korean Army,
- North Korean Army strategy and tactics in the Korean War, and
- North Korean Army strategy and tactics since the Korean War.

The bibliography incorporates serials and monographs received in the previous month and is part of a continuing series on the above subjects.

Entries are arranged alphabetically by author or title. Library of Congress call numbers, where appropriate, are included to facilitate the recovery of works cited.

## GLOSSARY

CPLA	Chinese People's Liberation Army
CFC	Combined Forces Command (US and ROK)
DPRK	Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea)
NKA	North Korean Army
NKAF	North Korean Air Force
NKN	North Korean Navy
KPA	Korean People's Army (Comprises NKA, NKAF, and NKN)
KWP	Korean Workers' Party
ROK	Republic of Korea (South Korea)
ROKA	Republic of Korea Army
ROKAF	Republic of Korea Air Force
ROKN	Republic of Korea Navy

1. MODERNIZATION OF THE NORTH KOREAN MILITARY

A SELECTIVE, ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY  
ON THE NORTH KOREAN MILITARY  
September 1986

Burgess, John. "Prospering North Shrouded in Myth." Washington Post, 19 August 1986, pp. A1,12.

This article reviews current trends in North Korea and in the military balance on the Korean peninsula. North Korea is described as "one armed camp" from the DMZ to the Yalu.

The KPA is reported to have a total personnel strength of 885,000, with 800,000 in the NKA, 50,000 in the NKAf, and 35,000 in NKN. Commenting on North Korean society in general, the author says that the people seem to be provided with adequate amounts of food and clothing and to have adequate medical facilities. However, the country suffers from its poor credit rating and its apparent inability to absorb new technologies. Burgess questions whether North Korea will provide the Soviets with permanent naval facilities in return for the modern weapons Moscow is currently providing to Pyongyang. He also sees no end to the continual state of hostility between Seoul and Pyongyang because neither side is willing to enter into substantive negotiations which could lead to a reduction of tension on the peninsula.

Copper, John F. "Why the Unusual Stirrings on the Korean Peninsula." Christian Science Monitor (Boston), 5 August 1986, p. 15.

North Korea could be preparing to attack South Korea with Soviet assistance. The author stresses the fact that over the last two years the percentage of NKA units positioned close to the DMZ has increased from 45 to 65 percent of all ground force units, and claims that increases in Moscow's military aid to Pyongyang must be taken seriously. It is pointed out that Soviet influence over North Korea was strong in 1950, the last time the North Koreans invaded the South.

Neilan, Edward. "North Korea Carefully Hones Ability to Pierce the South." Washington Times, 4 August 1986, p. 9A.

North Korea has undertaken a steady buildup of its armed forces over the last decade and this effort is believed to have given Pyongyang significant military advantages over

A SELECTIVE, ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY  
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September 1986

South Korea. The author notes the following factors as indications that North Korea is preparing for another conflict with South Korea: NKA units have been reequipped and two mechanized strike forces have recently been located close to the DMZ; it has built the second largest commando force in the world; and the NKN and NKAF have been improved with Soviet assistance. The possibility of war is said to be greater now than at any other time in the last 35 years.

"North Korean Air Force Beefed Up by 50 MiG-23s." Korea Herald (Seoul), 12 August 1986, p. 3.

The article recounts the delivery of Soviet MiG-23/FLOGGER fighter aircraft to North Korea in 1985 and 1986. The Soviet Union is said to have sent 26 MiG-23s to Pyongyang in 1985 and 20 so far in 1986. Reportedly, the Soviets have limited shipments to ten or fewer aircraft at one time. The Japanese newspaper Yomiuri Shimbun is cited as the primary source.



## 2. NORTH KOREAN ARMY STRATEGY AND TACTICS IN THE KOREAN WAR

A SELECTIVE, ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY  
ON THE NORTH KOREAN MILITARY  
September 1986

Koh, Byung Chul "The Korean War as a Learning Experience for North Korea." Korea and World Affairs (Seoul), Vol. 3, No. 3, Fall 1979, pp. 366-84. DS916.6.K67

The effect of the Korean War on North Korea's political and economic development is analyzed in this article. Koh believes that the war helped Kim Il-song purge opposition factions from power and solidify his control over the KWP and the Government. Kim is also portrayed as a pragmatic leader, who would not consider another major invasion of South Korea worth the risk. The author suggests that neither the Soviet Union nor China is prepared to support another full-scale war on the Korean peninsula. Koh concludes that North Korea will probably continue policies in force since 1966 which promote political hostility and occasional small-scale military actions targeting US and ROK military personnel and government officials.

Whiting, Allen S. The Chinese Calculus of Deterrence. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 1975. xxv. 299 pp. UA835.W45

Chapter 7 of this book examines the statements of Chinese leaders and Chinese radio broadcasts made prior to the November 1950 CPLA offensive against Korea, and the October 1962 Sino-Indian border conflict. Whiting compares Chinese actions in these two situations with Beijing's deployment of antiaircraft units to North Vietnam in 1965. A close examination of these three events suggests that China changed its strategy for deterring conflict with potential adversaries between 1962 and 1965. In both 1950 and 1962, major offensives against UN Forces and the Indians were preceded by verbal warnings and small-scale military actions. The Chinese then disengaged and waited to see if their actions would influence opposition forces to change their policies. In the case of Korea, China reportedly hoped to stop the advance to the Yalu, and with India, China apparently expected Indian Forces to withdraw from the territory in dispute. Whiting believes that the Chinese kept the 1965 deployment of antiaircraft units to North Vietnam a secret because of the above-mentioned failures in its deterrence strategy.

### 3. NORTH KOREAN ARMY STRATEGY AND TACTICS SINCE THE KOREAN WAR

A SELECTIVE, ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY  
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September 1986

Canby, Steven L. "Bolstering Seoul's Defense." Asian Wall Street Journal (Hong Kong), 28 July 1986, p. 6.

The author believes that the NKA would be able to breakthrough ROKA defensive positions in the early stages of a renewed conflict on the Korean peninsula because of flaws in South Korea's defensive strategy. Canby suggests that the weaknesses of employing static defenses were revealed during World War I. North Korea is said to stress maneuver warfare tactics which are well suited for penetrating the ROKA's frontline defenses and for destroying South Korean artillery, logistics, and command organizations behind the frontlines. The author argues that NKA advantages would be negated if the ROKA deployed troops on the reverse slope of hills and organized quick counterattack reserve units. Reportedly, these changes would also enable the US to strengthen its strategic position vis a vis the Soviet Union by better utilizing the forces it already has in Northeast Asia. The author is an adjunct professor at Georgetown University's National Security Studies Program.

"Pyongyang Ties With Beijing, Moscow." Korea Times (Seoul), 13 July 1986, p. 4. In JPRS-KAR-86-030, 5 August 1986, pp. 12-13.

This editorial expresses concern for South Korea's security because of North Korea's growing military relationship with the Soviet Union. Military exchanges in July, which commemorated the 25th anniversary of the DPRK-USSR Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance, are interpreted as a show of force highlighting the military aspects of the agreement. Reportedly, the Soviet Union views a closer military relationship with North Korea as an essential part of its military buildup in East Asia.

Richardson, Ron "Missing Element." Far Eastern Economic Review (Hong Kong), Vol. 133, No. 28, 10 July 1986, p. 5.  
HC411.F18

A SELECTIVE, ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY  
ON THE NORTH KOREAN MILITARY  
September 1986

The author predicts that military leaders will continue to have a significant voice in a government led by President Kim Il-song's son and heir apparent, Kim Chong-il. He supports this view by pointing out that as Kim Chong-il has been groomed for power, a larger number of military figures have been named to key KWP positions. Richardson estimates military officers comprise 20 percent of the present KWP Central Committee. Although he acknowledges military influence has taken a lower profile since the October 1983 Rangoon bombing, he believes that the military is behind the recent improvement in Soviet-North Korean relations and he suggests that North Korea has never renounced policies that are hostile to the United States and South Korea.

"South Korea: The USSR Courts North Korea." Foreign Broadcast Information Service, Foreign Press Note, 21 August 1986, np.

This article summarizes the contents of three South Korean newspaper reports which discuss various aspects of Soviet-North Korean political and military relations. A 22 July Kyonghyang Sinmun article suggests that North Korea is playing a small role in the Soviet Union's current strategy to counter Chinese influence in Asia and the Pacific and to restrain Japan's military buildup. Reportedly, the Soviet Union has asked North Korea for permission to establish a naval base at Wonsan, and, additionally, favors holding joint military exercises and establishing a joint intelligence command. Information on Soviet military interest in North Korea is attributed to Tonga Ilbo and Maeil Kyongje Sinmun.